

REMARKS

1. The applicants and their attorney would like to thank the Examiner for his consideration and helpfulness in the Interview of June 26, 2003 and his willingness to review a proposed claim.

2. Claims 1-32 are pending in this application. Reconsideration and further prosecution of the above-identified application are respectfully requested in view of the amendments and discussion that follows. Claims 1-32 have been rejected in the previous Office Action under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, as being non-enabling. Claims 1-32 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being obvious over U.S. Patent No. 6,121,965 to Kennedy et al. in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,950,201 to Van Huben et al. and U.S. Patent No. 5,821,934 to Kodosky et al. After a careful review of the claims (as amended), it has been concluded that the rejections are in error and the rejections are, therefore, traversed.

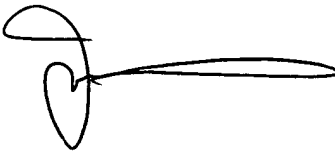
3. Independent claims 1, 13 and 24 have been further limited to the use of "means for" and "a plurality of switches" for electrically interconnecting the elements. Support for this amendment may be found in numerous places in the specification and the drawings (e.g., page 12, lines 17-33, FIG. 1, etc.).

4. Claims 1-32 have been rejected as being obvious over various combinations of Kennedy et al., Van Huben et al. and Kodosky et al. However, as noted in previous Responses, none of the cited references provide any

teaching or suggestion of a method or apparatus for assembling and operating a physical system from a remote location. Since the invention would no longer be obvious, in light of the claims (as amended), it is respectfully requested that the rejections be withdrawn.

5. Allowance of claims 1-32, as now presented, is believed to be in order and such action is earnestly solicited. Should the Examiner be of the opinion that a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of the subject application, he is respectfully requested to telephone applicant's undersigned attorney.

Respectfully submitted,
WELSH & KATZ, LTD.

By 

Jon P. Christensen
Registration No. 34,137

August 4, 2003
WELSH & KATZ, LTD.
120 South Riverside Plaza
22nd Floor
Chicago, Illinois 60606
(312) 655-1500